



ALEXANDRIA:
SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 4, 1861.

A number of ladies, born in the Border States, but now residing in New York, have published an Address to the Union Defence Committee of the city of New York, in which they say:—"They wish to protest against the deliberate and systematic incitement and fostering, by many of the New York daily newspapers, of a cruel, savage, and robber-like spirit of war; a spirit of blood-thirsty malignity, and unmanly hatred, prompting to deeds of murder and rapine; a spirit belonging to wild men and wild beasts, but which ought to be banished from the citizens of a humane and free government. It shows a nation's trait in the recommendation to make war on helpless women and children. The editors of the Tribune, Times, Courier and Sun, not one of whom it is believed, a native of the State, whose dignity they thus degrade, do not hesitate to urge measures that involve inevitably the destruction of entire families; the laying waste of cities, by way of precaution, the planning of raids into no glowing States to drive out the proprietors of the soil and take possession of it as a reward for military services. Their bestialities have already provoked indignant comments from the Canadian press, which, with the fresh memories of Indian and Chinese massacres by England, pronounces the United States Government in advance of all despotisms in the extent of these proposals. It is respectfully suggested that there should be a stop put to this."

Common sense, humanity, and prudence, in spite of all restraints and all attempts at repression will show themselves, especially in minds where conservative opinions have once influenced the judgment and conduct. Hence we read the following in the Boston Courier:—

"In view of the awful struggle which lies before us,—in view of the fact that a civil war is impending between two portions of a great empire, moved by such passions and fed by such resources, we trust that it will not be deemed unreasonable, and 'giving aid and comfort to the enemy,' if we suggest to the humanity and Christianity of the whole country to pause for awhile, and see if it be not possible to find some other solution to the dread problems before us than the sharp edge which solved the Gordian riddle. And may we not further presume—we are aware how presumptuous it is in us to have any opinions in opposition to the majority of the community around us—to express the hope that the government will confine itself to defensive measures, and not attempt any war of conquest or repression, at least, until Congress assemble."

The Philadelphia North American, we know not on what authority, has a "plan of the campaign." This plan contemplates the holding on to Pickens, and the support of 30,000 men at Pensacola, and 20,000 in Texas; a course of military operations at Cairo to command the commerce of the Western waters; the probable occupation of Western Virginia by the troops of Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York; a military camp at Pittsburgh; the isolation of Baltimore and opening of all roads to Washington from the North and West; the fortification and defence of Washington; and the concentration of an immense army along the right bank of the Potomac, prepared at the proper time to dictate terms at Richmond, Raleigh, Charleston, &c. This is the "plan." It may be taken for what it is worth.

The Richmond Examiner advocates the concentration of troops along the Potomac, "so as not to leave Alexandria and the Potomac region exposed and defenceless." The military movements are under the direction of able men, and they are doubtless acting for the best. We willingly leave it, as at present advised, to their better skill and judgment in all such matters.

When Captain Payne's Black Horse Company of Fauquier, left Warrenton for Dumfries, last Saturday, after an appropriate prayer by Rev. Mr. Pugh, an eloquent address was made by Lieut. J. V. Brooks, of the Lee Guard, to which Capt. Payne gracefully replied. The Black Horse troop, and Warrenton Riflemen are now in camp at the Fauquier Springs.

The gallant Col. May, resigned his rank in the Army of the United States, in accordance with arrangements he had made some time since, and not on account of the present difficulties in the country. He has, as yet, joined no other service.

Whatever may be the feeling in other parts of Maryland, it is quite certain that the demonstrations in the counties on the Potomac opposite Virginia, are all of a Southern character; and the military enthusiasm is running high.

In their calculations as to military invasions in the Southern country, have the Northern people taken into account the element there—and a formidable epidemic that makes sad havoc among those unaccustomed?

James Barbour, esq., of Culpeper, consents to be a candidate for re-election to the House of Delegates. We presume he will have no opposition.

We must again caution the public against believing all the rumors and reports that are daily started about military operations, pro or con.

The Assembly of California has passed the proposed amendment to the constitution of the United States, by a vote of ayes 61, nays 9.

A great number of mercantile failures have occurred in New York and Philadelphia, within the past week.

The Southern troops are arriving at Lynchburg, and going into encampment there.

Mr. Russell's first Letter to the London Times, on the American Crisis, is published. It is dated at Washington, March 20. We make an extract to show his "early impressions." Since he wrote this letter he has gone on to Charleston:

"It is difficult for one who has arrived so recently in this country, and who has been subjected to such a variety of statements, to come to any very definite conclusion in reference to the great questions which agitate it. But as far as I can I shall form my opinions from what I see, and not from what I hear; and as I shall proceed South in a few days, there is a probability of my being able to ascertain what is the real state of affairs in that direction. As far as I can judge—my conclusion, let it be understood, being drawn from the prevailing opinions of others, and not from my own, is that the South will never go back into the Union." On the same day I heard a gentleman of position among the Southern party say, "No concession, no compromise, nothing that can be done or suggested shall induce us to join any Confederation of which the New England States are members," and by another gentleman, well known as one of the ablest of the Abolitionists, I was told, "If I could bring back the Southern States by holding up my little finger I should consider it criminal to do so." The friends of the Union sometimes do not realize the power and their indignation at the prospect presented by the great republic, under the grip of pride in the peculiar excellence of institutions which have perished such a revolution as Secession, without the loss of one drop of blood. But concession averts bloodshed. If I give up my purpose to the footpad who presents a pistol at my head, I satisfy all his demands, and he must be a sanguinary miscreant if he pulls the trigger afterwards. The policeman here, surely, no business to boast of the peculiar excellence, in such a transaction, of the state of things which allows the transfer to take place without bloodshed. A Government may be as elastic as, like an overinflated india-rubber ball, and that very quality is claimed for the Federal Government as excellence by some eminent men whom I have met, and who maintained the thesis, that the United States Government has no right whatever to assert its authority by force over the people of any State whatever; that, based on the consent of all, it ceases to exist wherever there is dissent—a doctrine which no one need analyze who understands what are the real uses and ends of Government.—The friends of the existing Administration, on the whole, regard the Secession as a temporary aberration, which a "masterly inactivity," the effects of time, inherent weakness, and a strong reaction, of which they flatter themselves they see many proofs in the Southern States, will correct. "Let us," they say, "deal with this matter in our own way. Do not interfere. A recognition of the Secession would be to set a precedent amounting to hostility. In good time the violent men down South will come to their senses, and the treason will die out." They ignore the difficulties which European States may feel in refusing to recognize the principles on which the United States were founded when they first embodied in a new Confederation, which, so far as we know, may be to all intents and purposes constituted in an entire independence, and present itself to the world with claims to recognition to which England, at least, having regard to precedents of *de facto* governments, could only present an illogical refusal. The hopes of other sections of the North are founded on the want of capital in the slave States; on the pressure which will come upon them when they have to guard their own frontiers against the wild tribes who have been hitherto repelled at the expense of the whole Union by the federal troops; on the exigencies of trade, which will compel them to deal with the North, and thereby to enter into friendly relations and ultimate realisation. But most impartial people, at least in New York, are of the opinion that the South has shaken the dust off her feet, and will never enter the portals of the Union again. She is confident in her own destiny. She feels strong enough to stand alone. She believes her mission is one of extension and conquest—her leaders are men of singular political ability and undaunted resolution.—She has but to stretch forth her hand, as she believes, and the Gulf becomes an American lake closed by Cuba. The reality, these vision the South is ready to test, and she would not wait the trial, which will indeed, be the work of years, but which she will certainly make. All the considerations which can be urged against her resolves are as nothing in the way of her passionate will, and the world may soon see under its eyes the conflict of two Republics founded on the same principles, but subjected to influences that produce repulsion as great as exists in two bodies charged with the same electricity. If ever the explosion comes it will be tremendous in its results, and distant Europe must feel the shock."

Senator Douglas, in the conclusion of the speech he lately delivered before the Legislature of Illinois, to which he took sides in favor of "supporting the government," said:—"I have struggled almost against hope to avert the calamities of war and to effect a reunion and reconciliation with our brethren of the South. I yet hope it may be done, but I am not able to point out to you how it may be. Nothing short of Providence can reveal to us the issue of this great struggle. Doubly calamitous—fear it will be. May we so conduct it, if a collision must come, that we will stand justified in the eyes of him who knows our every act? We must not yield to resentments, nor to the spirit of vengeance, much less to the desire for conquest or ambition."

The export of gold from Victoria, Colombia, for the quarter ending March 31, was \$218,000; being an excess of \$42,000 over the corresponding quarter of last year. The same paper reports the purchasing or building of steamers for the Victoria and San Francisco trade direct, in case the offer made the proprietors of the Santa Cruz is rejected.

The Norfolk Argus says: "The Confederate States are as independent to-day as the colonies were after July 4th, 1776. Indeed, they are actually more independent, because their action springs from their right as sovereign States; the action of the colonies was not of free men, but of men who were determined to be free. The action of the one was that of colonists, the other that of citizens."

The pony express passed Fort Kearney April 30. The Pacific mail steamer Golden Gate sailed from San Francisco on the 20th for Panama, carrying 280 passengers and \$825,000 in treasure, including \$750,000 consigned to New York.

The Hotels and Boarding-houses, in the villages in the neighboring counties, are filling up with citizens of Washington and other places, seeking a refuge there from the calamities of the times.

The Governor of Virginia has determined to station a large number of troops in Petersburg.

No free people, who know their rights, and are determined to maintain them, who act on the defensive, and seek nothing but the maintenance of their own independence—who say, "let us alone—and we will not quarrel with you"—can be coerced, conquered, or subdued. They may, at first, have hard knocks, and meet with reverses. No man has a right to suppose that the fortune of war will always be favorable. But, in the end, they will be successful. The civilized world will be on their side, in sentiment.

We have accounts of the first day's proceedings of the Southern Congress at Montgomery. The business was entirely of a routine order. The Message of the president was read, and communications received from the people of New Mexico favorable to union with the Southern Confederacy.—Subsequently Congress went into secret session.

Some of the newspapers mention particulars showing the lingering attachment of the dismembered parts of the once great and glorious Union, and the reluctance with which citizens separate from each other. Would that the people of the North had so acted, and the Administration had so moved, as to prevent the result which has happened!

It is said that the English Minister, Lord Lyons, a few days since despatched his first Secretary to the Montgomery Government on important business. It is understood he carried information to Jeff. Davis as to the position which England intends to assume towards the Confederate Government.

The Boston Advertiser is mistaken.—There is no self deception at the South as to the almost entire unanimity of the North, in favor of the support of Lincoln's course. That knowledge does not alter the determination to stand by and maintain our rights and liberties.

The residence of John Taylor, esq., of Westmoreland county, Va., was burned down last week. The fire is supposed to have been caused by an incendiary.

There was a provision panic in Louisville, on Monday but it turned out that there was upwards of 3,000,000 bbls. of beam, alone, in the city.

We judge from the "givings out" in several of the Republican papers, that General Harney is not in favor of all with the Administration in Washington.

The New York papers of the day before yesterday were full of a story of the presence of an army of 30,000 Southerners at Dumfries, Prince William county, Va.

Edward L. Yates, of South Carolina, a notice of whose marriage appears in this morning's Gazette, it is said, an Aid de Camp of General Beauregard.

A Public dinner is proposed for Senator Latham on his arrival, by his friends in San Francisco.

To "re-take Harper's Ferry and Sumter" seems now to be the "word" at the North—"preliminary."

Mr. Lewis W. Burrell, of Petersburg, is recruiting for Col. R. A. Pryor's Regiment, in the service of the Southern Confederacy.

L. Scott & Co., N. Y., have republished the April number of the Westminster Review. It contains articles on the Study of History; the Sicilian Revolution; Voltaire's Romances; the Universities; early intercourse of England and Germany; the Cotton Manufacture; Ancient Law; Egypt; Austria; and a review of contemporary literature. Robert Bell—Agent.

The May number of the Southern Literary Messenger has been published. It has quite an interesting miscellany of original and selected literary and scientific articles—with some papers on the present condition of affairs in this country. The Messenger is strongly Southern in its views.

Important from France. Official Declaration of the French Government in regard to the Southern Confederacy.

The Paris correspondent of the New York Times writes that the American minister at Paris, Mr. Faulkner, has had an official interview with the French minister of foreign affairs, M. Thouvenel, on the subject of the recognition of the Southern Confederacy. The writer says:

M. Thouvenel demanded to know if the cabinet at Washington were divided in sentiment on the question of recognition? To which the American Minister replied that under any circumstances the members of the American cabinet were only advisory officers, and that with the President remained the initiative and the responsibility of public acts such as these. That these were the President's views, and that these alone were to be taken as guides in diplomatic transactions.

M. Thouvenel then said that the government of the United States need not have any apprehension of a speedy recognition of the Southern Confederacy by the government of France. It was not the habit of the French government to act hastily in questions of so delicate a nature. He pointed out the case of Italy, where apparently there could be no special objection to the recognition, and yet from prudential motives the recognition was withheld. The French government, added M. Thouvenel, sees the present disunion in America with pain, and not only would desire to see the broken elements reunited, but would never step in by any act whatever to widen the division or add fuel to the flames.

At the same time M. Thouvenel said that the practice of France, as indeed of most of the European Powers, was now clearly understood in these cases of recognition of new governments. A government once clearly established beyond dispute was a government *de facto*, and must be recognized, and when the new American government arrived at that point, he presumed, although he had no right now to prejudice the future, it would be recognized.

M. Thouvenel then demanded information on the subject of the new tariff, which he said so deeply affected French commerce.—Mr. Faulkner informed him that from indications from Washington, he believed there would be an extra session of Congress, and that the tariff would be modified—a declaration which gave the Foreign Secretary great satisfaction, and induced him to say to Mr. Faulkner that at the next meeting of the Cabinet he would be pleased to report this hope to the Emperor and his colleagues in the government.

M. Thouvenel assured Mr. Faulkner that up to the present time he had not been spoken to by any one on the subject of a recognition of the Southern Confederacy.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

"To show the very age and body of the times."

The Baltimore Sun says:—"Every thing is dull, and the wharves present an almost desolate prospect. Yesterday at Pratt street wharf, usually crowded with vessels, there were two small sloops, such as are used on the shores of Anne Arundel to bring vegetables to the city; and at the other wharves there were but few vessels from the Eastern Shore. When the excitement began, ten days ago, there were a large number of schooners at the wharves; but they left as rapidly as possible, and will not return until assured quiet again reigns in Baltimore."

The Monthly Table of Marine Losses for the past month, shows an aggregate of fifty-seven vessels, of which eleven were ships, eight were barkes, one a barkentine, eight were brigs, and twenty-nine were schooners. The total value of property lost and missing was one million three hundred and fifty-seven thousand four hundred dollars. This is the value of the property totally lost, exclusive of damage to vessels not amounting to a total loss. The vessels reported in this list are chiefly American.

Henry J. Raymond, of the New York Times, James Gordon Bennett, of the Herald, William C. Bryant, of the Evening Post, Horace Greeley, of the Tribune, and Henry Ward Beecher, of Plymouth Church, are now *par excellence* the military lions of the North. It is they who are stirring up the hyperborean heart to deeds of blood.

The court martial in the case of Commodore Armstrong, recommended that William Conway, the Quartermaster who refused to haul down the flag, receive some special mark of approbation. This recommendation is carried out in an order from the Department, giving him praise and thanks.

There is a veritable panic in the New York oyster market, owing to the impediments thrown in the way of free trade by the secession of Virginia, and the warlike operations along the shores of the Chesapeake. Prices have accordingly gone up from 20 to 25 cents per 100.

Mr. Whitehouse a Commissioner from Tennessee, visited the President of the Southern Confederacy some days ago, and President Davis reciprocated the courtesy by appointing the Hon. Henry W. Hilliard as a Commissioner from the Confederate States to the State of Tennessee.

Col. Wade Hampton, of S. C., has received from Montgomery full authority and a Commission for recruiting, enlisting and organizing an Independent Legion, to comprise in judicious proportions Cavalry, Artillery and Riflemen, or, if preferred, Infantry.

The New Orleans Crescent says:—"The most important move now to be carried out at this time, is to suppress the telegraph wires. The dispatches forwarded daily through the Associated Press Agents serve to keep up continual excitement."

Thirteen of the New York banks on Saturday contributed nearly half a million of dollars for the defence of the government. Added to the previous subscription of \$250,000 by the Broadway Bank, these contributions amount thus far to \$715,000.

The Philadelphia Ledger confesses that the militia force in that city is not in such a state of efficiency as might be desirable, and though it does not say so, evidently entertains grave doubts as to the success of an attack on the South with such material.

Some two or three months since, seven negroes effected an escape from their masters and appeared at Fort Pickens, then commanded by Lieut. Slemmer. That officer returned them to their owners.

Judge Harris, of Georgia, rides his docket of assault and battery cases by discharging the parties on condition that they join the army where they can give full sway to their fighting propensities.

It is understood that the line of steamers between Baltimore and Norfolk will be permitted to run as usual, but will be strictly limited to carrying mails and passengers.

Lieut. Col. John Monroe, of the Fourth regiment, United States Army, died at the residence of his niece, in New Brunswick, N. J., last week.

General Harney is said to report that he saw nothing in Virginia, indicating an intention to attack Washington.

UNPLEASANT PREJUDICE.—A few days ago, a young gentleman connected with the engineering department of the navy, and who has just received orders to join the steam frigate "Minnesota"—nearly ready for sea—was united in marriage to an interesting young lady in Charleston, and they departed on a flying trip to New York. While walking up Broadway with his bride, he was suddenly arrested on suspicion of being a Southerner, and taken away from her "loved best." The few hours wife was left standing in the street, and the husband was thrown into prison, where he was detained all night, notwithstanding his protestations that he was an officer in the navy, and a native of Pennsylvania, from which State he was appointed. In the morning he was released from his imprisonment, and at once flew to his afflicted darling. Blunders like this should not occur often in the 19th century.

ONE KIND OF BUSINESS PROSPERING IN NEW YORK.—In whatever way other kinds of trade may be hampered in New York by the hard times, there is one description of business which is prospering in an unprecedented manner. All that relates to the volunteers, their transportation and supplies, is thriving amazingly, and there is a vast amount of money realized by contractors and others, while thousands are obtaining employment who would otherwise be idle, and perhaps hungry. The war has given a great impetus to such business in New York as is connected with armies and navies.—N. Y. Herald.

Mr. Memminger, Secretary of the Treasury of the Confederate States, has issued the following:

"MONTGOMERY, April 22, 1861. "Our Government will not violate the law of nations by seizing private property which has entered our ports relying on our protection. Continue to grant clearances to vessels not carrying out naval stores and supplies to the enemy."

"C. G. MEMMINGER, "Secretary of Treasury."

In a subsequent order he explains that rosin and turpentine are not to be included in "naval stores," and therefore may be cleared as usual.

A REGIMENT OF SMITHS.—It is the intention of Mr. Charles Smith to come forward to the aid of the country in its present crisis with a regiment of Smiths. He thinks that there are quite enough men of that name in this city alone to establish a right of way through Baltimore at once. All persons of the name of Smith (none other need apply) who are capable of doing a good and useful service of joining such a regiment, will please call at No. 556 Broadway, and enrol their names, at any time during the day from 10 A. M. to 5 P. M.

We find the above in the New York Journal of Commerce of Monday.

Telegraphic Despatches.

WASHINGTON, May 2.—The post-office department has made a temporary arrangement with Col. Shillington, of this city, which will secure regular daily mail communication between Washington and Baltimore.

HARRISBURG, May 1.—A large body of carpenters left here this morning, by the Northern Central Railroad, to rebuild the bridges burned this side of Baltimore. A body of men from the camp at York will go along to protect the workmen and prevent further destruction of the work. The whole expedition is to be under the command of Col. Andrew Porter, of the United States Army.

PHILADELPHIA, May 2.—A body of engineers and workmen, well protected, left this city today, for Maryland, to erect, as speedily as possible, new bridges over Bush and Gunpowder creeks, on the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad.

NEW ORLEANS, May 1.—Pensacola advices to the 24th inst. say the troops are working day and night on the batteries. Two companies had just arrived from New Orleans, and were erecting three gun batteries for the defence of Pensacola.

Galveston dates to the 26th inst. say that active preparations were going on throughout Texas. Major McCulloch's regiment for the frontier had been mustered into service at San Antonio. On the 25th batteries were being erected at Galveston. Forts Bliss and Quitman would soon be garrisoned by Texas troops. Fifteen hundred volunteers had been enrolled at Galveston in four days, and one thousand more in the surrounding country had offered their services.

BOSTON, May 1.—It is reported that the Governor is about calling an extra session of the Legislature to make an appropriation and authorize the Governor to establish a camp in Massachusetts, where all the newly called volunteers can rendezvous until called into active service. Privates, in the meantime, will be paid \$20 a month by the State.

Lieut. Collier, of the marine corps, attached to the Minnesota, raised the American flag on Old South Church steeple. He is a native of Maryland. The Minnesota will probably sail on Saturday.

HARTFORD, May 1.—The Connecticut Legislature convened to day.

Gov. Buckingham, in his message, recommends an efficient State militia; says that 41 volunteer companies have already been accepted, and that the fifth regiment will be full in a few days. The regiments will not leave the State until they are fully equipped, with camp and baggage trains.

The Legislature will make liberal appropriations for every purpose. All parties are in harmony on that question. The State is out of debt, and owns some \$400,000 bank stock.

WILMINGTON, May 1.—Our companies of volunteers are filling up rapidly, since the proclamation of the Governor. General Patterson will not muster them into the service until a regiment is complete. Our usually quiet city now wears a military aspect. The Wilmington Institute is converted into an arsenal, where five companies are drilling daily. It will take only a few additional men to make up the State's quota, and five regiments could be raised easily.

WHEELING, Va., May 2.—A meeting of the merchants of this city was held on yesterday to determine what action should be taken in regard to the renewal of the State license, which expired yesterday. A committee was appointed to draft resolutions, and the meeting adjourned till to-morrow.

The feeling was strongly in opposition to the renewal, some of the participants expressing their determination to close their stores rather than pay the tax.

BRANSON, Mo., May 1.—Gov. Black has issued a proclamation recommending a thorough volunteer organization throughout the Territory. He has already supplied companies with arms and equipments, and seems determined to place Nebraska in the best possible condition of defence. It is supposed that at least one regiment of Nebraska troops will be mustered into the service for home defence.

TRENTON, N. J., May 1.—At 6 o'clock this evening the fourth regiment, Colonel M. Miller, New Jersey volunteers, numbering seven hundred and eighty men, embarked in the steam propellers F. W. Brune and Paterson, at this city, to proceed southwardly. The steamer F. W. Brune carries two brass six pound guns.

NEW ORLEANS, May 1.—Samuel R. Glenn, special correspondent of the New York Herald, was arrested yesterday on a dispatch from Mexico, and immediately released on his character being made known. Troops are still pouring in from the country. Three thousand are now encamped at the Mercurie River Course.

ST. LOUIS, May 1.—The election held yesterday in Marion county, to fill a vacancy in the Legislature, resulted in the triumph of the Union candidate over the secessionist, and formerly a member of the U. S. Congress, by 149 majority. G. M. B. Maugh, secessionist, was elected in Jackson county, to fill a vacancy.

FREDERICK, Md., May 2.—In the bill relating to the stay of execution reported in the House yesterday, the word "payments" was erroneously telegraphed instead of the word "judgments" or "decrees."

The Governor has appointed Dr. D. Clark, of Annapolis, a councillor.

CHICAGO, April 30.—The Evening Journal learns from a gentleman just returned from Mississippi that in many parts of that State famine prevails, and the people are suffering from the want of enough to eat. Corn, which is the chief article of food, is very scarce.

NEW ORLEANS, April 29.—The ship Ironsides, hence for Liverpool, with 2,400 bbls. of cotton and 8,000 barrels of flour, caught fire at the bar this evening. Two boats are engaged in pumping water into her, with the hopes of saving the vessel.

MONTGOMERY, May 1.—Congress has been mostly in secret session, and its deliberations have been transcribed.

The first battalion of the third Alabama regiment left this morning for Virginia.—Two companies of dragoons are ready to leave for Pensacola.

PORTLAND, May 1.—An attempt was made today to burn the State Powder House, on Bramhall Hill, by kindling a fire at an air-hole on the outside. By a timely discovery the disastrous attempt was frustrated.

HARRISBURG, May 1.—Major Pugh, Brigade Inspector of Philadelphia, died at the Pennsylvania Hotel to-day, of congestion of the brain. When he arrived in this city last evening he was in good health.

NEW YORK, May 1.—The crew of the steamer North Carolina, which was seized, have been brought here by schooner W. C. H. Smith, from Wilmington, N. C. The crew of steamer Uncle Ben are still in prison.

ST. LOUIS, May 2.—The Cairo correspondent of the Republican says that about a dozen volunteers belonging to a Chicago company had refused to take the oath and left the ranks.

Major Buckner, commander-in-chief of the Kentucky militia, had a conference with Col. Prentiss, commander of the forces at Cairo. There was much excitement at Paducah Ky., and companies were constantly drilling. Four pieces of artillery had been received from Nashville.

The Governor of Tennessee had made a demand upon the Governor of Illinois for the arms and munitions of war taken from a steamer. The boat had been given up to the owners and taken to Paducah.

The war feeling was high at Nashville,

and several companies were drilling day and night.

A twenty-four pounder and a considerable number of troops were stationed at Columbus, Ky. The town was carefully guarded, and all strangers closely watched, as the people feared an attack from the Cairo forces. The steamer Julius H. Smith had slipped by Cairo and landed 450 Colt's rifles.

BOSTON, May 1.—The royal mail steamer Niagara sailed for Liverpool this forenoon. She takes eighty-eight passengers, but no specie.

The steamer Arabia arrived at five o'clock this morning.

BOSTON, May 1.—Messrs. Adams, Clay and Haldeman, Ministers to England, Russia and Sweden, sailed in the steamer Niagara to-day.

BOSTON, May 1.—The Granite State Guard proceeded to Fort Constitution at Portsmouth to-day.

HARTFORD, May 3.—The Governor has accepted the tender by Colonel Colt of a regiment of ten companies, armed with rifles and sabre bayonets at his own expense.—Colonel Colt also furnishes officers to drill the men in the use of these arms, likewise at his own expense.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., May 2.—The Secretary of War has tendered to Gov. Sprague the office of Brigadier General.

The Governor telegraphs that the Second Rhode Island Regiment is not needed at present.

PRECEDENT DAVIS'S MESSAGE TO THE SOUTHERN CONGRESS.—We make the following extracts from this document in addition to the general summary of its contents already published:—

The State department has furnished the necessary instructions for three commissioners who have been sent to England, France, Russia and Belgium, since your adjournment, to ask our recognition as a member of the family of nations, and make with each of these powers treaties of amity and commerce. Further steps will be taken to enter into like negotiations with the other European powers in pursuance of your resolutions passed at the last session. Sufficient time has not yet elapsed since the departure of these commissioners for the receipt of any intelligence from them. As I deem it desirable that commissioners or other diplomatic agents should also be sent at an early period to the independent American powers south of our Confederacy, with all of whom it is our interest and earnest wish to maintain the most cordial and friendly relations, I suggest the expediency of making the necessary appropriations for that purpose.

Having been officially notified by the public authorities of the State of Virginia that she had withdrawn from the Union, and desired to maintain the closest political relations with us which it was possible at that time to establish, I commissioned the Hon. Alexander H. Stephens, Vice President of the Confederate States, to represent this government at Richmond. I am happy to inform you that he has concluded a convention with the State of Virginia, by which that honored Commonwealth, so long and justly distinguished among her sister States, and so dear to the hearts of thousands of children in the Confederate States, has united her power and her fortunes with ours, and become one of us. I have satisfactory assurances from other of our late confederates that they are on the point of adopting similar measures, and I cannot doubt that they will have been many weeks in session, the whole of the slaveholding States of the Union, will respond to the call of honor and affection, and by uniting their fortunes with ours, promote our common interests and secure our common safety.

In the Treasury Department, regulations have been devised and put into execution for carrying out the policy indicated in your legislation on the subject of the navigation of the Mississippi River, as well as for the collection of revenue on the frontier. Free transit has been secured for vessels and merchandise passing through the Confederate States; and delay and inconvenience have been avoided as far as possible in organizing the revenue service for the various rail-ways entering our territory. As fast as experience shall indicate the possibility of improvement in these regulations no effort will be spared to free commerce from all unnecessary embarrassments and obstructions.

Under your act authorizing a loan, proposals were issued inviting subscriptions for five millions of dollars, and the call was answered by the prompt subscription of more than eight millions by our own citizens, and not a single bid was made under par. The loan of this character being made known to the President of the United States to invade our soil, capture our forts, blockade our ports, and wage war against us, induce me to direct that the entire subscription should be accepted. It will now become necessary to raise means to a much larger amount to defray the expenses of maintaining our independence and repelling invasion. I invite your special attention to this subject, and the financial condition of the government, with the suggestion of ways and means for the supply of the Treasury, will be presented to you in a separate communication.

Since your adjournment all the courts, with the exception of those of Mississippi and Texas, have been organized by the appointment of Marshals and District Attorneys, and are now prepared for the exercise of their functions.

In the two States just named, the gentlemen confirmed as judges, declined to accept the appointment, and no nominations have yet been made to fill the vacancies. I refer you to the report of the Attorney General, and a memoir in his recommendation for immediate legislation, especially on the subject of patent rights. Early provision should be made to secure to the subjects of foreign nations the full enjoyment of their property in valuable inventions, and to extend to our own citizens protection, not only for their own inventions, but for such as may have been assigned to them, or may hereafter be assigned by persons not alien enemies.